



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 2, 2002

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LEONARD GREGG INDICTED FOR STARTING RODEO FIRE

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on July 2, 2002, an Indictment was returned by a federal grand jury in Phoenix against LEONARD GREGG, D.O.B. 8/25/72, of Cibecue, Arizona.

The complete text of the Indictment follows:

COUNT 1

On or about June 18, 2002, in the District of Arizona, within the confines of the White Mountain Apache Indian Reservation, Indian Country, LEONARD GREGG, did willfully and without lawful authority, set on fire timber, underbrush or grass or other inflammable material upon the White Mountain Apache Indian Reservation, near Cibecue, Arizona (Pina Fire) .

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1855.

COUNT 2

On or about June 18, 2002, in the District of Arizona, within the confines of the White Mountain Apache Indian Reservation, Indian Country, LEONARD GREGG, did willfully and without lawful authority, set on fire timber, underbrush or grass or other inflammable material upon the White Mountain Apache Indian Reservation, near Cibecue, Arizona (Rodeo Fire).

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1855.

A TRUE BILL

The Detention Hearing is still scheduled for Wednesday, July 3, 2002, at 9:00 AM before Judge Verkamp in Flagstaff, Arizona. The Preliminary Hearing is no longer scheduled as it is unnecessary after an Indictment.

The Indictment charges GREGG with two counts of violating Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 1855. A conviction carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both. Federal law also requires the payment of restitution.

An Indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the Indictment was conducted by a task force which included the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Forest Service with assistance from the Pinetop-Lakeside Police Department and the White Mountain Apache Tribal Police Department.

The prosecution is being handled by Joseph C. Welty and Vincent Q. Kirby, Assistant United States Attorneys, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER:

CR 02-661-PCT

RELEASE NUMBER: 2002-122

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